

I. INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the 2012 edition of the NASA Range Safety Annual Report. Funded by NASA Headquarters, this report provides a overview for current and potential range users. This report contains articles which cover a variety of subject areas, summaries of various NASA Range Safety Program (RSP) activities performed during the past year, links to past reports, and information on several projects that may have a profound impact on the way business will be conducted in the future.

Specific topics discussed in the 2012 NASA Range Safety Annual Report include a program overview and 2012 highlights; Range Safety Training; Independent Assessments; Support to Program Operations at all ranges conducting NASA launch/flight operations; a continuing overview of emerging range safety-related technologies; and status reports from all of the NASA Centers that have Range Safety responsibilities.

Every effort has been made to include the most current information available. We recommend this report be used only for guidance and that the validity and accuracy of all articles be verified for updates. Once again, this web-based format is used to present the annual report. We hope you find the contents informative and the layout intuitive.

As is the case each year, we had a wide variety of contributors to this report from across our NASA Centers, the Department of Defense (DoD), and civilian organizations, and I wish to thank them all. I would like to take this time to personally acknowledge three particular individuals who have provided excellent support to the RSP who have moved on to other opportunities. Michael Dook has served as the RSP Executive in the Office of Safety and Mission Assurance (OSMA) at NASA Headquarters (HQ) since its inception. He has been a steadfast advocate for the Program within the Agency, and he will be missed in that capacity. He now fulfills a leadership role within the Goddard Space Flight Center-Wallops Flight Facility Range Safety Organization, and we have no doubt he will serve them well. He will continue to provide excellent support to the NASA and larger national Range Safety community. Zachary Barnes and Robb Laney did an exemplary job supporting the RSP for seven and three years, respectively. As members of the RSP support contractor team, their technical expertise in this unique discipline proved very valuable and will be a challenge to replace. While all have left our Range Safety family, I hope their current work continues to allow our paths to cross. I wish them well.

In conclusion, it has been a very busy and productive year, and I look forward to working with all of you in NASA Centers/Programs/Projects and with the national Range Safety community in making Flight/Space activities as safe as they can be in the upcoming year.

Alan G. Dumont
NASA Range Safety Manager